

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-11

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

ERDA-07 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 CIEP-02 COME-00 DODE-00

EB-07 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

OMB-01 PM-04 SAM-01 OES-05 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00

FEA-01 NRC-07 ARA-10 EA-09 EUR-12 NEA-10 /144 R

DRAFTED BY IO/SCT;JPTREVITHICK

APPROVED BY IO/SCT - MR. TREVITHICK

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION IAEA VIENNA IMMEDIATE

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

UNCLAS STATE 048281

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TECH, ENRG, IAEA

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT'S ENERGY MESSAGE

IAEA VIENNA FOR AMB. STONE TO BE DELIVERED 2/28

NAIROBI FOR NOZIGLIA

1. PRESIDENT'S ENERGY MESSAGE, DELIVERED TO CONGRESS
FEBRUARY 26 CONTAINS FOLLOWING SECTION ON NUCLEAR POWER,
ONE PARAGRAPH OF WHICH DEALS WITH SPECIAL CONTRIBUTION OF
DOLS 5 MILLION IN NEXT FIVE YEARS TO STRENGTHEN IAEA
SAFEGUARDS PROGRAM.

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2. QUOTE. GREATER UTILIZATION MUST BE MADE OF NUCLEAR

ENERGY IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE ENERGY INDEPENDENCE AND MAINTAIN A STRONG ECONOMY. IT IS LIKEWISE VITAL THAT WE CONTINUE OUR WORLD LEADERSHIP AS A RELIABLE SUPPLIER OF NUCLEAR

TECHNOLOGY IN ORDER TO ASSURE THAT WORLDWIDE GROWTH IN NUCLEAR POWER IS ACHIEVED WITH RESPONSIBLE AND EFFECTIVE CONTROLS.

AT PRESENT 57 COMMERCIAL NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS ARE ON LINE, PROVIDING MORE THAN 9 PERCENT OF OUR ELECTRICAL

REQUIREMENTS, AND A TOTAL OF 179 ADDITIONAL PLANTS ARE PLANNED OR COMMITTED. IF THE ELECTRICAL POWER SUPPLIED BY THE 57 EXISTING NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS WERE SUPPLIED BY OIL-FIRED PLANTS, AN ADDITIONAL ONE MILLION BARRELS OF OIL WOULD BE CONSUMED EACH DAY.

ON JANUARY 19, 1975, I ACTIVATED THE INDEPENDENT

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION (NRC) WHICH HAS THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR ASSURING THE SAFETY, RELIABILITY, AND ENVIRONMENTAL ACCEPTABILITY OF COMMERCIAL NUCLEAR POWER. THE SAFETY RECORD FOR NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS IS OUTSTANDING. NEVERTHELESS, WE MUST CONTINUE OUR EFFORTS TO ASSURE THAT IT WILL REMAIN SO IN THE YEARS AHEAD. THE NRC HAS TAKEN A NUMBER OF STEPS TO REDUCE UNNECESSARY REGULATORY DELAYS AND IS CONTINUALLY ALERT TO THE NEED TO REVIEW ITS POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR CARRYING OUT ITS ASSIGNED RESPONSIBILITIES.

I HAVE REQUESTED GREATLY INCREASED FUNDING IN MY 1977 BUDGET TO ACCELERATE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS THAT WILL MEET OUR SHORT-TERM NEEDS TO:

-- MAKE THE SAFETY OF COMMERCIAL NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS EVEN MORE CERTAIN,

-- DEVELOP FURTHER DOMESTIC SAFEGUARDS TECHNOLOGIES TO ASSURE AGAINST THE THEFT AND MISUSE OF NUCLEAR MATERIALS AS THE USE OF NUCLEAR-GENERATED ELECTRIC POWER GROWS;
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-- PROVIDE FOR SAFE AND SECURE LONG-TERM STORAGE OF RADIOACTIVE WASTES;

-- AND ENCOURAGE INDUSTRY TO IMPROVE THE RELIABILITY AND REDUCE THE CONSTRUCTION TIME OF COMMERCIAL NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS.

I HAVE ALSO REQUESTED ADDITIONAL FUNDS TO IDENTIFY NEW URANIUM RESOURCES AND HAVE DIRECTED ERDA TO WORK WITH PRIVATE INDUSTRY TO DETERMINE WHAT ADDITIONAL ACTIONS ARE NEEDED TO BRING CAPACITY ON LINE TO REPROCESS AND RECYCLE NUCLEAR FUELS.

INTERNATIONALLY, THE US IN CONSULTATION WITH OTHER NATIONS WHICH SUPPLY NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY HAS DECIDED TO FOLLOW STRINGENT EXPORT PRINCIPLES TO ENSURE THAT INTERNATIONAL SHARING OF THE BENEFITS OF NUCLEAR ENERGY DOES NOT LEAD TO THE PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS. I HAVE ALSO DECIDED THAT THE US SHOULD MAKE A SPECIAL CONTRIBU-

TION OF UP TO DOLS 5 MILLION IN THE NEXT FIVE YEARS TO STRENGTHEN THE SAGEGUARDS PROGRAM OF THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY.

IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT THE CONGRESS ACT IF WE ARE TO TAKE TIMELY ADVANTAGE OF OUR NUCLEAR ENERGY POTENTIAL. I URGE ENACTMENT OF THE NUCLEAR LICENSING ACT TO STREAMLINE THE LICENSING PROCEDURES FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF NEW POWER PLANTS.

I AGAIN STRONGLY URGE THE CONGRESS TO GIVE HIGH PRIORITY TO MY NUCLEAR FUEL ASSURANCE ACT TO PROVIDE ENRICHED URANIUM NEEDED FOR COMMERCIAL NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS HERE AND ABROAD. THIS PROPOSED LEGISLATION WHICH I SUBMITTED IN JUNE 1975, WOULD PROVIDE THE BASIS FOR TRANSITION TO A PRIVATE COMPETITIVE URANIUM ENRICHMENT

INDUSTRY AND PREVENT THE HEAVY DRAIN ON THE FEDERAL BUDGET. IF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT WERE REQUIRED TO FINANCE THE NECESSARY ADDITIONAL URANIUM ENRICHMENT
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CAPACITY, IT WOULD HAVE TO COMMIT MORE THAN DOLS 8 BILLION OVER THE NEXT 2 TO 3 YEARS AND DOLS 2 BILLION ANNUALLY THEREAFTER. THE TAXPAYERS WOULD EVENTUALLY BE REPAID FOR THESE EXPENDITURES BUT NOT UNTIL SOMETIME IN THE 1990'S. FEDERAL EXPENDITURES ARE NOT NECESSARY UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT SINCE INDUSTRY IS PREPARED TO ASSUME THIS RESPONSIBILITY WITH LIMITED GOVERNMENT CO-OPERATION AND SOME TEMPORARY ASSURANCES. FURTHERMORE, A COMMITMENT TO NEW FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FOR URANIUM ENRICHMENT COULD INTERFERE WITH EFFORTS TO INCREASE FUNDING FOR OTHER CRITICAL ENERGY PROGRAMS. END QUOTE.

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